

Klein
December 25, 1958

Dear George and Eva:

We have been back home a week now, and this is all it takes to be settled back into our customary routine. But what a routine this is now—preparing to move.

We hardly know how to thank you properly for all you have done for us to make this month such a memorable one. It is preposterous to try, and I am sure you know our feelings very well. Many of our doubts and hesitations have been dispelled in the warmth of the realization, and it is not likely we will soon forget even the ceremonial aspects, which are the most dispensable.

Our return home was on the whole uneventful. It was rainy but not unpleasant at Rapallo, and we needed the rest. We had been booked on a flight from Milan to Paris (and confirmed twice) only to discover it didn't exist: this obliged us to make a hurried auto detour from Rapallo to Turin instead of Milan, but it all worked out quite well. We left Paris at about 1915 and reached New York at about 2300 which, in fact, is not too far from schedule. On the westbound flight, the jet now has to stop at Iceland, which accounts for part of the delay. The Zinders met us at the airport and we stayed overnight with them, and returned directly to Madison the next day.

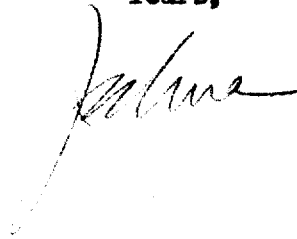
Let me confirm that the medal just arrived safely from Washington; we had the diploma with us, of course, and as the bank confirmed the cash transfer, we can say that all our Viking loot is now safely in hand!

I did try to sound out Norton Zinder about his possible interest in visiting Stockholm, and was ~~just~~ glad to find that he might be even keener for it than I might have anticipated. I suspect that his first inclination might be to do his research work with, say, yourself in order to learn more, but I think he would be agreeable to any constructive arrangement. He does have a number of problems in mind, e.g., purification of phage endolysin, which would very advantageously fit in with the microbiological institute plant too. I suggest that you open direct correspondence with him as soon as is convenient. As long as you can agree that he should not be asked to accommodate you at any financial sacrifice, so that his wife and two children can accompany him in some comfort, and so that he will be able to take advantage of the opportunity for some further travel, I am sure you will have a ~~most~~ satisfactory basis in principle. I am sure he will be able to assist you in arranging the financing of his trip, but as we discussed, the main burden of this should be met by yourselves.

We are leaving for Stanford in just about 3 weeks now. We had a small collision yesterday -- my first appreciable accident -- roughly parallel to your own, though not precisely a skid. Although it may have done perhaps \$100 of (partly recoverable) damage to our rather old car, it may have done us an advantage by suggesting more ~~if~~ forcefully that we should sell the car and fly out to California rather than undertake a hasty week's auto trip at this season. So this is probably what ~~will~~ we'll do, possibly on January 20.

A happy new year to all of you,

Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John", written in dark ink.